



Van hits hydro pole

Power shut off for brief time period

2



Surfing with Santa

Annual holiday stunt draws large crowd

10



Martin presented service award

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Sledding in the snow



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Kristen Pisarcic and her daughter Adelyn enjoying themselves at the Sugarbowl on Thursday. The local tobogganing spot was busy all day Thursday and Friday after heavy snowfall on Boxing Day. Read the story on page three.

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Would like to Thank the people of Fort Erie for your generous support of the Navy League Cadet program.

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Driver strikes pole

Kris Dubé
Editor

When the snow hits, sometimes motorists don't take their surroundings into full consideration.

On Thursday afternoon, the driver of a minivan struck a hydro pole on the Niagara Boulevard, near Catherine Street. Canadian Niagara Power had to shut off service to homes in the area until all the necessary repairs were made.

Chief of the Fort Erie Fire Department Larry Coplen said these types of incidents are not uncommon during the first winter weather events of the season.

"People seem to forget how to drive during the first one or two snowfalls we have," said Coplen.

There were no injuries in the incident and Coplen said motorists simply need to be cautious when there is snow on the ground.

"Sometimes it's forgotten how quickly things can change with road conditions," said Coplen.

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

The Fort Erie Fire Department and Niagara Regional Police at the scene of a collision between a minivan and a hydro pole, along the Niagara Boulevard on Thursday afternoon. Nobody was injured in the incident.

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First major snowfall of the season

Melissa Mangelson
Fort Erie Times

A treacherous commute greeted residents Thursday morning as a powerful snowstorm hit the region on Boxing Day.

Several vehicles were left stranded in their driveways, while people attempted to clear away the snow.

The Town of Fort Erie had their sanders and plows on the road at 5 p.m., Wednesday, doing some sanding to give some traction under the snow. They began plowing at full-force around midnight.

Ron Tripp, the Town of Fort Erie's interim chief administrative officer said they expected everything to be pretty well cleaned up by the end of Thursday.

"We had no issues in regards to the holiday, our staff is pretty much used to this. As far as I can see it went well. I was driving around today and didn't see any problems," he said.

The Town also clears sidewalks and parking lots, but Tripp said their first priority is always the roads.

Despite the efforts of keeping the roads clean there were still a couple fender benders and accidents in the area.

Fort Erie Fire Chief Larry Coplen said the drivers seemed to fair well against the storm. He received a call Wednesday night to a collision on the QEW involving a minivan. Four people had to be removed from the vehicle, but no one

received any major injuries.

The intense winter storm brought up to 30 centimetres of snow to some places. Environment Canada said that the Niagara Peninsula received between 15 to 25 centimetres, depending on the location. Despite the dump of snow, Fort Erie is a long way from its record snowfall, which occurred Dec. 27, 2001 when lake effect snow brought 57.6 centimetres.

As of Thursday, Environment Canada said that the bulk of the storm was in the books, with just a few light flurries expected. The long range forecast for Fort Erie looks good, with just a 40 per cent chance of mixed precipitation expected for Dec. 31.



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times
Brennan Pisarcic going for a cruise at the Sugarbowl on Thursday morning, taking advantage of the first winter weather event of the season.



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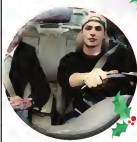
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Collard wants public input about transit in Stevensville

Kris Dubé
Editor

Since being elected in 2010, Ward 6 Coun. Paul Collard has been vocal about bringing public transit to Stevensville on a full-time basis.

Through an open house on Jan. 31 at the Fort Erie Public Library (FEPL)'s Stevensville branch, the councillor, along with town staff, will be inviting the public to weigh in on how they feel about transit service levels in the area.

Considering the vast geographic scale of Stevensville, the most northern part of Greater Fort Erie, Collard feels residents in the area should have public transit available to them, at least two or three days a week.

"There's a hole in the system," said Collard, who

“

I'm trying to engage the young people.”

— Ward 6
Coun. Paul Collard

also stressed he is not being critical of Town staff.

Public meetings were held to discuss this matter in recent years, but they were virtually unattended.

In the next few weeks, Collard says he will head out into the community to promote the public meeting and gauge the opinions of residents on the matter.

"The issue is big enough to me, I'll do a door-to-

door canvas," said Collard.

"What I'm doing, is trying to arouse interest," he added.

Collard also said residents of Black Creek Leisure Homes have also been consulted.

Although transit service would have its benefits to people in their adult and senior years, younger generations would also benefit greatly, he said.

How do children from Stevensville get to the skatepark? How do kids

living in Fort Erie proper visit their friends in Stevensville when parents aren't available to provide rides?

These are questions Collard hopes will be addressed at the public meeting.

"I'm trying to engage the young people."

He estimates it would cost about \$190,000 to provide transit to Stevensville, which would have to be addressed through the budget process.

Carla Stout, the Town of Fort Erie's transit program manager, said two similar open houses were held in 2009 on the topic of service in Stevensville and turnout from the public was extremely poor.

"Unfortunately, both

were essentially not attended," said Stout.

She said improving the amount of service in the area is not an unfamiliar topic, as every Ward 6 Coun. for the last ten years has expressed interest or inquired about upgrading.

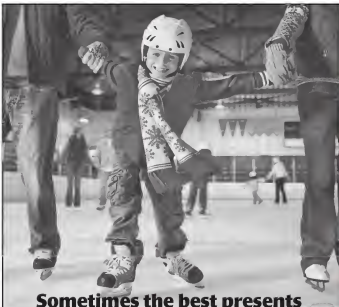
Adding Stevensville to the mix would cost about \$200,000, most likely requiring another bus on top of the around \$400,000 that is already being spent per year to service the rest of Greater Fort Erie.

"It's always been hard to justify the expense of adding another route or bus," said Stout.

She agreed with Collard's comments, that the open house will be a chance to hear from the public to gauge their wants and needs.

"This is an opportunity for me to go out and get a beat on what the expectations are," she said.

The open house is Jan. 31 at the FEPL's Stevensville branch from 5 to 8 p.m.



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Singing along



MELISSA MANGELSEN Fort Erie Times

Students at St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School in Stevensville gathered in the gym on their last day before Christmas break to sing some holiday carols together.

Yellow Shirt Brigade circulating petition on hospital location

Health care advocacy group wants new hospital built in Niagara Falls near QEW

home.

Before she even picks up, the 78-year-old knows what the call will be about.

"This is why I don't leave the house much," she says before answering.

A local business owner is on the other end of the line. Another petition for their storefront is requested.

After a year's hiatus, the Yellow Shirt Brigade is

making a comeback. At its peak, the group of active citizens bolstered numbers of more than 500 people in support of the fight against the Local Health Integration Network's decision to take away Fort Erie's emergency room and replace it with an urgent care centre.

"We lost that battle. People were becoming apathetic in knowing we weren't going to get it back

no matter how hard we wished," she says. "But they haven't won the war."

Three weeks ago, Russell and her group began distributing petitions for people to sign in support of Niagara Health System supervisor Kevin Smith's recommendation that a new south Niagara hospital be built in Niagara Falls, just off the QEW.

By Saturday, more than

600 signatures had been collected on the petition to be sent to Minister of Health and Long-Term Care Deb Matthews and members of the Ontario government.

Russell says she hopes for up to 20,000 signatures.

"We have to remobilize," she says. "This battle can be won if we all work together. We have to work with the NHS, it's obvious. And if everyone is working in the same direction we'll get it done."

Although the numbers aren't nearly as strong as they once were, Russell says she's hoping for a rebound as the group shifts its focus from saving a hospital to helping create one.

"Realistically, Niagara Falls can't live without a hospital and in Fort Erie we're told to go to Niagara Falls," she says, adding the Welland location shouldn't be considered.

"It doesn't make sense. (Welland is) hard to get to.

With the Niagara Falls location there's no side roads, no back roads, no stop lights. You get on the QEW and you're there," she says.

She's left petitions at numerous businesses in Fort Erie, Ridgeway and Niagara Falls, but is hoping to reach as wide of an audience as possible.

She says she'll be speaking in front of Niagara Falls city council early next year in hopes of gaining the support from councillors and Mayor Jim Diodati.

In the meantime, she says she hopes the 500 people who purchased the symbolic yellow shirts dig them out of the closet and regain that fighting spirit.

This time the large "No" printed on the front stands for something a little different.

"It was about not taking our hospital away," she says. "This time it reminds us that we don't want health care taken away from Fort Erie."

Matt Day
QMI Agency Niagara


Joy Russell picks up the phone inside her Ridgeway



MATT DAY QMI Agency Niagara

The Yellow Shirt Brigade's Joy Russell holds up some of the 600 signatures her group has collected from residents of Fort Erie and Niagara Falls who are in support of a new south Niagara hospital being built at Lyons Creek Rd. and the Queen Elizabeth Way. The petition supports a recommendation made earlier this year by the Niagara Health System's appointed supervisor Kevin Smith.

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opinion page

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our editorial

Council members have a passion for the community

People love to disagree with politicians.

Sometimes it's the only way to get through the day for certain individuals.

There is a lot of that in Fort Erie, whether it's through direct emails and phone calls to members of council or expressing an opinion through social media.

There is nothing wrong with this, because people are entitled to their own opinions and all politicians should be aware that this comes with the territory. It's what they signed up for, to be criticized and held accountable.

Members of council have been the subject of a fair amount of criticism in recent times about certain decisions.

This editorial isn't designed to talk about actions taken by council and how we may disagree with them.

The point we want to make is that all councillors, regardless of whether or not you disagree with them, are extremely passionate about the community and

the areas they were elected to serve.

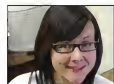
A perfect example of this is Ward 6 Coun. Paul Collard and his efforts to bring the local transit service to Stevensville.

Since being elected, Collard has made this one of his priorities.

It has been mentioned at council meetings on certainly more than one occasion and more recently as he tries to raise awareness about a public meeting on Jan. 31.

Many people have questioned Collard and some of the decisions made by council, but the passion for the community that he and all members of council share should not go unrecognized.

-Kris Dubé



Melissa Mangelsen
Reporter's Notebook

Many of us are guilty about not looking past

what's going on in our own backyards.

We take what we read at face value and never think to question it. We build stereotypes based on the single story and can see things any other way.

For minor hockey players from Denmark and Fort Erie, they're building a bridge by participating in a unique

program, which is about more than hockey.

It's about cultural exchange.

The common theme among players was the difference in cuisine between the two countries.

What many of us may not know is that Denmark cuisine consists mainly of meat and fish, which stems from its agricultural



Do You Remember?

Our thanks to Cathy Rivet, Bernice Schoenhals, and two anonymous readers for calling in about last week's photo. Attending the 1981 Stevensville Station #5 Volunteer Firefighters' Christmas Party, are, from left to right, Jennifer Schoenhals, Tyler Kennedy, Billy Schoenhals,

Adam Rivet, Trevor Kennedy, and Fire Chief Roland Daku. Bernice tells us that the party and turkey dinner were held right after the annual Christmas Parade.

For the final Do You Remember photo of 2012, we present a mystery hockey player to our readers.

His jersey reads 'Jim Blair': can anyone tell us if this is Jim we are looking at, and if he was a Fort Erie resident? Please call the Museum at 894-5322 or e-mail museum@forterie.on.ca.

Have a happy New Year, and see you in 2013 for more unidentified photographs.

Exchange program about much more than just hockey

al past, its geography and climate of long, cold winters.

The currency used in Denmark is Danish krone, and while we complain about the high prices of our goods, the players noted that it's a lot cheaper in Canada and the United States.

Programs like the cultural exchange allow our youth to open their eyes

to a world that's much bigger than we see on the news or learn about in our schools. The assumptions we make are endless and while it's easy to look at our differences and build a wall between ourselves, it's much more worthwhile to look at our similarities. Though Denmark is located in Northern Europe, the players all had one com-

mon bond, which was hockey. Through cultural exchange programs our youth are able to experience something unique and build lifelong friendships based on similarities, not differences.

If you would like to leave me feedback, call me at (905) 871-3100 ext. 208 or send me an email to melissa.mangelsen@sunmedia.ca

opinion page

Council spending too much time on frivolous issues

Dear Editor,

Many thanks for your contribution in the paper this year, it has been an interesting reading. Some of your comments I did not agree with, but I agreed with the majority of your comments. It's great to live in a Democratic country.

Your latest comments

on Town Council's latest fiasco in regard to the appointment of CAO, is truly frustrating.

You are correct in your summary of the situation. We as taxpayers who our councillors rely on for their salaries, have a right to know whats going on, when they are continually wasting our money on frivolous issues. One candidate has been doing the

CAO job for a year, and according to most people he should be given this job permanently. If the Town was a private business, I am sure that he would have been appointed to this position a while ago. There are three or four councillors that since they have been elected, go against any suggestion and always vote the opposite way, not because most

of the recommendations are poor or won't work.

Take the condos at Crystal Beach for example, or the lighthouse. People should not vote for these people in the next election, as they are holding up Fort Erie's progress by their childlike behaviour.

Norman O'Brien
Fort Erie

Current CAO more than capable, says reader

Dear Editor,

In order to analyze a situation it sometimes helps to make a list of questions about the issues and attempt to answer them with a conclusion or opinion.

The issues as I see them (in no particular order) concerning the Town's CAO situation are: The Town needs to hire a CAO, answer yes.

The Council has made a mockery of the process, answer yes.

The Council is micro managing a process that is better in the hands of the professionals we pay.

I'm referring to a capable HR department to handle these situations.

The Council voted in favor of spending \$30,000 to hire an outside agency to source candidates, answer yes. We have a person in place, (on an interim basis for over a year) who was appointed by council.

They must have felt he was capable of guiding the Town or why would have they appointed this individual in the first place?

From all that I have heard and witnessed, the person in the position currently is professional and is more than capable of being given the role permanently.

The members of Council who voted to hire an outside agency to fill this must feel strongly that he is not capable, otherwise why spend \$30,000?

I don't know because they won't say.

It could be as simple as maintaining the 4 to 3 strategy.

This concludes the humble opinion of an overtaxed citizen. Council has once again turned what could have been a positive into a negative.

Dan Weaver
Fort Erie

Do what's best, stop grandstanding

Dear Editor,

We retired to Fort Erie 6 years ago and have thought ourselves so fortunate to be living here.

We have made many friends and find this community to be a great place to live.

Having said that, we are astounded by the behaviour of our current council.

Do these people forget that they are working for us and should be conducting themselves with the best interest of the people instead of this constant bickering.

It appears that they have all agreed to disagree about everything.

Surely, they must have found some common ground on which to do what is best for the residents of this town.

With regard to the current decision to go outside to a headhunter to fill the position of CAO is clearly misguided.

Do they not see the merit in having a dedicated person who has been filling the job since Mr. Schlange left?

What message are they sending to employees of the town if they consistently go outside of the community to fill these positions.

I am sure that my grade 8 granddaughter's class could have come to a decision without spending \$30,000 of our money.

Come on guys and get your act together - think of what's best for the town and stop this grandstanding.

Carol McLaughlin
Fort Erie

Leadership and community spirit missing

Dear Editor,

What Next?

Can this council find anything else to do senselessly argue about. Can this council be anymore negative about anything?

Since moving to this com-

munity a little over 3 years ago, my wife and I cannot believe how negative the attitudes are here and how that negativity is led by town council.

The area is desperately poor but businesses are discouraged at every turn by one vested interest on coun-

cil or another. It's no wonder that Ontario has become a have-not province and Fort Erie a dead town. Who is really running this town?

Where is the leadership? Where is the community spirit that needs to come forward in order to find ways for this town to come back to

life?

Maybe it's time that this council resigned and a new council elected?

It's time for a new plan and a new direction.

Jason and Carol Smith
Fort Erie

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Region spends \$170,000 during storm

Jeff Bolichowski
QMI Agency Niagara

It's a snowfall like the old days, and it comes with a \$170,000 price tag for Niagara Region.

That's about what it costs to keep the Region's snow control crews out during big snowstorms like the one that swept into Niagara Wednesday, said operations and technology manager Dave MacLeod. Those storms, he said, are an all-day event for the plows as they tackle snowy roads Region-wide.

Those don't happen as often anymore, he said. Wednesday's weather, he said, was more typical of 10 to 15 years ago, and its rapid onset gave snow crews a tough time.

"The only fortunate part of this was it fell on the Christmas holiday, when traffic was down," he said.

MacLeod said the event saw the Region roll out 28 plows. He said they started by dousing regional roads with gallon after gallon of snow-resistant solution - basically beet juice - to prepare for the storm.

"We're on the road 24-7," he said.

He said within a day's time, the snow crews will plow every main regional road six times.

Niagara Regional Police said the snow day drew 31 auto accidents, 16 of which were cancelled or deemed too minor to report. That includes fender-benders and sideswipes.

Two, including a fatal snowmobile crash, involved injuries.

Snow should mean extra care when driving, Sgt. Paul Webb said in an e-mail.

He said motorists should plan ahead and not rush, slow down when driving, give vehicles ahead more space and not tap the brakes to try and get tailgaters to back off. And he said drivers should keep vehicles clean to maintain visibility.

He said it's key to have snow tires, take care on bridges and stay off cell phones.

Drivers, he said, should avoid driving altogether if it's possible.

"No collision can happen if you aren't on the roads in bad weather," he said.



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times
Ethan, Mark, Alexa and Tina Gibbons took advantage of a free public skating session at the Leisurplex on Thursday afternoon.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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ATTENTION ALL MOTORISTS: In an effort to keep the streets free of vehicles during the winter months for snowplowing and sanding operations, residents are reminded that no overnight parking is permitted.

Traffic By-law No. 2000-89, Section 205 provides that "No person shall park a vehicle or permit a vehicle to remain parked" on any street in Town "between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. between November 1, 2012 and March 31, 2013."

The Town's By-law Enforcement Officers will be exercising vigilant enforcement of By-law No. 2000-89. **Your vehicle will be issued a parking ticket and could be towed, at your expense,** if found in violation of the by-law.

Enquiries may be directed to the Town's By-law Enforcement Officers by calling (905) 871-1600, Extension 2216 (Geoff Stephenson) or Extension 2215 (Matt Richardson).

Free public skating

The Town of Fort Erie offering a series of free public skating sessions during the remainder of the holidays.

The next free skate is Jan. 2 at the Jaycee Rink of the Leisurplex at 1:30 p.m. and at 2 p.m. at the Crystal Ridge Arena.

On Jan. 3, free skates will be offered at 2 p.m. at both the Jaycee Rink inside the Leisurplex and the Crystal Ridge Arena.

On Jan. 4, ice time is free at the Jaycee rink at 2 p.m.

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Three strong candidates vying for right to represent provincial Niagara PCs

Penny Coles
OMI Agency Niagara

A Niagara-on-the-Lake businessman and two regional councillors are in the running to become the next Progressive Conservative candidate for the Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake and Fort Erie riding.

Niagara Falls regional councillors Bart Maves and Barbara Greenwood, and Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club owner John Wiens are vying for the nomination.

Niagara-on-the-Lake farmer and businessman George Lapp, who was the riding's unsuccessful PC candidate against Liberal Kim Craitor during the 2011 provincial election, also filed nomination papers, but then announced he was withdrawing and is contesting Maves, who was a Niagara Falls MPP from 1995 to 2003.

The PC riding association has scheduled a Jan. 23 nomination meeting at the Americana Hotel, where the winner will be declared.

Barbara Greenwood is no stranger to politics. Non-mid-way through her second term on regional council, she has worked behind the scenes on campaigns for Maves, who was an MPP in Niagara for two terms, and spent three years, from 2000 to 2003, working for him.

She set up Rob Nicholson's campaign office when he ran in this riding in the federal election, then took his office once he was elected, until 2006, when she decided it was time to make the move to an elected role and ran for regional council.

She says it's partly her role as regional councillor, co-chairing the public health committee, that has motivated her to try to make a move to provincial politics.

"I've had an opportunity to really see what's happening in the Niagara Region," she says.

"I know we need to make the provincial government more aware of our needs here in Niagara."

She says she sees first hand how difficult it can be



Bart Maves



Barbara Greenwood



John Wiens

for people in the region, as the result of small business and manufacturing closures and the resulting job losses.

"We've had a 47 per cent increase in the past two years in the need for social services. It's creeping up on us. And the province has cut back on the start-up for social assistance," she said.

"And we have a lot of working poor, families where both parents are working but not making enough to bring them up above the poverty line."

That has to change, she says. "I know I can make a difference."

Through her church, she helps deliver food weekly to Project Share, so she sees how necessary that help is to many families.

"I believe I'm up for the job," she says.

"I feel I'm capable of looking after the Niagara area. I want to see us prosper again. I want to see us moving forward again. It's all about working together. If we speak with one voice the province is going to listen."

The life-long Niagara Falls resident has earned a reputation in her community for volunteerism, especially with the Boys and Girls Club of Niagara Foundation, as the vice-president and fund development chairperson. She has earned the Boys and Girls Club of Niagara Volunteer of the Year award four times: from 2006 to 2009; and is a member of the Niagara Falls Rotary Club and a recipient of the Paul Harris Award 2006.

Greenwood has been a volunteer with the Air

Cadets and the Red Cross for 10 years.

Maves is midway through his first term on regional council. He became MPP for the Niagara riding in 1995, was defeated by Liberal Kim Craitor in 2003 and currently owns and operates Sterlingbridge Marketing and Communications.

He compares the Niagara of today to the riding he took following the defeat of the Bob Rae NDP government in 1995—Niagara has been devastated in the past eight years, he says. There is high unemployment, the number of people on welfare continues to grow, there is a huge deficit—the provincial debt doubled in eight years under the Liberals—he says.

Those are constituents who don't know if they will continue to have jobs next year, especially Fort Erie with the race track closure, and the proposed opening of a casino in Toronto would further decimate the employment rate and the economy locally.

"There has been terrible mismanagement. My kids and eventually my grandkids will pay for the mistakes being made today by the Liberals."

Maves points to some of his accomplishments in office: two casinos in Niagara while keeping one out of Toronto; major

expansion at the Shaw Festival with support from his government; and VQA legislation that helped wineries.

He would like to continue work on cutting red tape for farmers and small businesses, which is crippling their operations.

In 1995, "we came in and balanced the budget, and Ontario had the highest growth rate in the country in North America, for that matter," said Maves.

"I'm so disappointed in the state of the province and the local economy, and I think I can do something about it. I feel my constituency I can help find solutions. That's why I'm throwing

my hat in the ring."

He points to Greenwood and Wiens as strong opponents, but says, "When I made my decision, it wasn't based on who else is running. The time is right for me and I feel I'm the best person for the job. I know where to go and how to get things done. There is no learning curve for me."

He has been a supporter of the Niagara Falls Boys and Girls Club for many years and is a past member of its board of directors. He spent many years coaching high school basketball, minor league baseball and hockey. He also volunteers for several community groups.

John Wiens is known locally as the consummate volunteer and being a "nice guy," but that won't hamper him if he earns the right to represent his riding at Queen's Park, he says.

"Being a nice guy can go hand in hand with being a politician," says Wiens.

"I can stand up for myself in rough situations. I've been in awkward spots before and I have learned to make things work. I will work hard and be committed. I know what's right and what's wrong."

and I can take a different approach than back-room dealing."

Wiens has always been front and centre as a volunteer—the list of NOTL projects is long, from the Chamber of Commerce, the Shaw Festival and the Christmas Parade, to many important and successful fundraisers, the provincial tourism board, the education council, and setting up hospitality programs for college and universities.

And yet, he says, he has never been far from politics.

His father was a strong supporter of the Conservatives, and John has continued that tradition, raising funds, working behind the scenes, and helping on election campaigns going door-to-door, although most of his time was spent working with the business community, he says.

See Page 12

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KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

John Fulton, also known as 'Surfing Santa,' is dropped off at the shore of Lake Erie by Niagara Helicopters last Sunday morning. This was the 28th run for Fulton's annual Christmas stunt, windsurfing in Lake Erie and the Niagara River, in an effort to raise money and awareness for homelessness.



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Surfing Santa gives a thumbs up when he first enters the water last Sunday.

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KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Before heading down further to the Niagara River, Surfing Santa was greeted by about 100 people at the shore of Lake Erie, near the Old Fort on Sunday morning.

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Surfing Santa is 28 years old

It wouldn't be Christmas in Fort Erie without Surfing Santa.

For the last 28 years, John Fulton has been gearing up in his finest Santa Claus suit, before heading out into the Niagara River with his wind-

surfing rig.

The annual event raises money and awareness for homelessness.

For more information about his cause, you can visit his website www.surfingsanta.com.

Police urging young woman to come forward

Alison Langley
CMI Agency Niagara

Police are asking the driver who was involved in an hit-and-run in Fort Erie last month that left an 82-year-old man with serious injuries to turn herself in.

On Nov. 30, Paul Ennis was crossing the street at the Stevensville Rd. and Main St. intersection with his wife, Shirley, when he was struck by a car making a turn.

"Police are appealing to the moral values of the driver of the vehicle who was obviously aware that they hit the pedestrian," said Staff Sgt. Dave Hunter.

"They are asked to turn themselves into any Niagara police station in order that this matter can be resolved," said

Police are appealing to the moral values of the driver of the vehicle who was obviously aware that they hit the pedestrian."

— Staff Sgt. Dave Hunter

The driver of the car is believed to be a young, white female. The vehicle is described as small and dark in colour with possible front-end damage.

Police are still searching for the suspect.

Anyone with information can call police at 905-688-4111, ext. 2300 or Crime Stoppers 1-800-222-TIPS.

Local man faces sex charges

A Fort Erie man faces sex-related charges involving a teenage girl.

In February 2011, Niagara Regional Police in Fort Erie investigated a sexual assault complaint involving a 14-year-old girl.

A suspect was arrested Wednesday.

Charged with sexual assault, sexual interference and invitation to sexual touching is Harley Vandepot, 23, of Fort Erie.

He was held in custody pending a bail hearing.

Health and wellness



Cindlee Flagg helps Betty Ireland relax at a recent health and wellness fair, hosted by the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre.

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times



Fiddler's Delight

Join us at Revera – Garrison Place for our upcoming live performance:

Wednesday, January 9th, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
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Bouquet to volunteers at Canadian Cancer Society
This is a bouquet to all of the wonderful Cancer Society volunteers who drive cancer patients to Hamilton and back each day for their radiation and chemotherapy treatments. Having such thoughtful people helping out is very comforting to the patients and their families. Thank you to all of you!

Bouquet to movement supporters
I'd like to send a bouquet to all the people supporting the Idle No More movement. Nya weh!

Bouquet to going above and beyond
This is a bouquet to the owner of a local coffee shop in Crescent Park who went above and beyond finding two fully-loaded gift cards that I had lost. I'm very appreciative of how helpful the store was!

Brick to unshoveled sidewalks
I'm sending loads of bricks to two groups of people. First being

residents who don't clear their sidewalks. I walk my dogs every evening. How pathetic that I have to walk on the edge of the road because the sidewalks aren't cleared? Maybe you don't care about people, but did you know that this is cruel to animals? Did you know that road salt burns their feet and the sand can cut them?

Bouquet to helpful neighbours

For some reason, it seems snowstorms can bring out a lot of friendly gestures between neighbours. Running my errands around town on Thursday, I saw on several occasions, what appeared to be a unified effort between neighbours. Lending shovels and snowblowers, working on each others' driveways together... a lot of team work. It's great to see.

Brick to clueless motorists

This is a brick to people who still drive like it's the middle of July, after a major snowfall. There is never a time when being careful and cautious behind the wheel of a car is more important than it is now. Be safe everyone, please.

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Lending a helping hand



MELISSA MANGELSEN Fort Erie Times

Max Johns has been wrapping Christmas presents at the mall in Fort Erie for over 20 years. She takes donations for the gift-wrapping, which are then donated to the Niagara Action for Animals. Johns, a self-proclaimed dog lover said not everyone who donates has had gifts wrapped. "Sometimes people come by and just drop money off for the animals," she said as she greeted people as they walked into the County Fair Mall.

Candidate has a lot left to give

From Page 9

But he was always too involved in his own career to run himself.

After his family sold the Prince, he and his father built the Gateway at Glendale, and then purchased the Afrukheh property on John Street, which they renovated and opened as Riverbend Inn. Shortly after that they bought the NOTI Golf Club, which they also renovated.

But then, during tough economic times, Riverbend and the golf club ended up in receivership.

Working through a difficult time was an experience that made him stronger, he said. Riverbend was sold, and he now concentrates on running the golf club, with partners.

And he feels, with support from friends and family, that now is the time to enter the fray of politics.

"I feel I'm a true leader, and people tend to follow me. I also tend to be humble. Nobody

knows me as a person who would say, 'hey, look at me, look at what I've done,' that's not in my nature. But it is in my nature to assemble a group of people and get a job done. I have a strong work ethic, and I'm up for the challenge, but it's not necessarily any other reason than to do good."

Wiens says he still has lots left in him to give, and now is the time to give it. He is excited about the PC White Paper and a platform that will help small business, a platform he can get behind and support.

Rainer Hummel, president of the provincial Progressive Conservative Niagara Falls riding, which the riding is fortunate to have three strong candidates hoping to represent the riding in the next provincial election.

It may be the political climate and a sense that change is in the air, it could be frustration over the current state of the provincial economy or a reaction to the Liberal scandals before the premier stepped down and pro-normed parliament—likely for all three candidates the decision to run is a combination of factors, says Hummel, including good

timing in their personal lives.

But their decision to run means whatever happens at the nomination meeting, the riding will be well-represented.

"John Wiens was courted a number of years ago, but the time was not right—he's definitely reached a level of frustration where he's ready to run. Bart Maves said he wouldn't do anything more in provincial politics until his kids were in high school, but he is feeling a considerable amount of frustration. He sees how provincial legislation affects the municipal and regional government—that would be obvious to Barbara Greenwood as well," said Hummel.

An election could be called by the new premier immediately after he's chosen on Jan. 25, or parliament could resume with a throne speech and a budget debate and vote that would put an end to the government and mean an election some time later in the spring.

Either way, he said, the PCs will be ready. "It's just a matter of getting our candidate up to speed, and none of them are neophytes—it won't be difficult."



Mayor Doug Martin was recently presented with a Longstanding Service Award by member of provincial parliament Kim Craitor, on behalf of the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, at a recent regional council meeting.

Martin presented service award

Two Regional councillors, Fort Erie Mayor Doug Martin and Councillor George Marshall (Welland), were presented with Long-standing Service Awards from the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Niagara Falls MPP Kim Craitor presented the awards, at last night's Regional council meeting, which recognize municipally-elected officials with at least 25 years of service.

"The Ontario Government is proud to present our Long-Standing Service Award to Regional councillor George Marshall and Fort Erie Mayor Doug Martin for their many years of service to our community. I cannot think of two more deserving individuals," said Craitor.

Douglas Martin began his career in municipal politics in 1982 as a councillor for the Town of Fort Erie, and has been mayor of that town since 2006. He has been a Regional councillor since 1997, chairing several committees including Corporate and Financial Services Committee,

Budget Committee, Audit Committee and the Property and Taxation Reform Committee. He was the owner and operator of Gibson's Jewellers in Fort Erie from 1971-2008 and has been involved in a number of community organizations.

George Marshall has 27 years of political experience, having started in 1982 as a councillor/alderman at the City of Welland, where he served for nine years. He is currently serving his seventh term as a Regional councillor and is a member of several Regional committees, including chair of the Communications Advisory Panel and vice-chair of the

T.Roy Adams Humanitarian Award Committee. Councillor Marshall served for 35 years at the Niagara Health System's Welland site as a psychotherapist. He was a founding member of the Oak Centre in Welland and the Welland Street Clinic, as well as its chair.

"On behalf of Regional council, I extend our congratulations to Mayor Martin and Councillor Marshall," said Regional Chair Gary Burroughs. "This recognition truly reflects the level of dedication and commitment these two elected representatives have shown on behalf of the residents of their communities."

Tribute to veterans



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Local businessman Paul Finlayson, left, recently purchased two bricks at the Juno Beach Centre in France in honour of two local veterans who fought in the Second World War's 'D-Day.' Replicas of the bricks purchased were presented to John Crotinger and John Bird recently, at an event held at Gilmore Lodge.



Megan Anne Smith
Jan 15th 2012

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Love of hockey bonds two cultures

Teams from Denmark and Fort Erie learn about culture through hockey. Vojens Ice Hockey Club spends week in the Fort Erie area.

Melissa Mangelsen
Fort Erie Times

The love of hockey can form a bond between any player or fan. A testament to this is the cultural exchange between members of the Vojens Ice Hockey Club and the local minor team, who participate in the annual TeamDenmarkexchange program.

"It's about cultural exchange, but it's the hockey that ties it together," said Fort Erie Coach Lanny Cooke.

Last year Cooke and his team went to Vojens, Denmark and this year, have welcomed the team to their home.

This is the 19th year for the program, which is about more than just hockey.

"They're building life-long friendships. There are a couple from the first group who are still in contact and take trips to visit each other," said Cooke.

The players, who are here from Dec. 26 until Jan. 4, stay with host families who are parents of the players.

"We have a full itinerary for them. We've taken them shopping, over to the outlets in the States. They're finding a really big price difference between here and Denmark. It's a lot cheaper here," said Cooke.

David Madsen and Simon Wiuff of the Denmark team both agreed that the food was the major difference they have noticed since arriv-

ing in Canada.

"There's a little more junk food here," said Wiuff.

Both have been playing hockey for as long as they can remember, but say that it's not as big in Denmark as it is in Canada.

"It's been great. I like the cultural exchange, it's been a great experience," said Madsen, who has been to Canada in the past.

Cooke said the Denmark players are very aware of the NHL and the big named players, but will be introduced to the OHL when they're taken to an Ice Dogs Game on New Years Eve.

During their nine days here players will take a day trip to Toronto to tour the Air Canada Centre, have lunch at Wayne Gretzky's restaurant and visit Niagara Falls.

On Friday the two teams split up for a fun tournament, but will face three strong teams in exhibitions games. They will take on the Midget Select Team, the AAA Rivermen team from Niagara Falls and the Buffalo Regals from the United States.

The players have been in contact with each other since meeting last year in Vojens. Staying connected through Facebook, e-mail and Skype.

Cooke said it's been a great experience for himself and his players.

"It was everyone's first time to Denmark last year, and the biggest difference we noticed was the food. Also, almost every house lights off fireworks on New Years Eve, which is something we can't do here," he said.

The trip is about players enjoying themselves to the fullest. It's an experience for life that they will never forget.

The program's success



MELISSA MANGELSEN
Fort Erie Times

The teams from Fort Erie and Denmark mix up for a fun game Friday afternoon. Back on left: Madsen, Tobias Jensen, Denmark, Christian Wiese, Denmark, Tyler Winger, Fort Erie, Sean Cooke, Fort Erie, Mike Thompson, Denmark, David Madsen, Denmark, Karl Fendert, Fort Erie, Brandon Haldon, Fort Erie, Front, Rasmus Mohr, Denmark, Spencer Daley, Fort Erie, Rune Sorensen, Denmark, Soren Larsen, Denmark.

doesn't just come from the love of hockey. It allows the players ages 13 to 15 to build social skills and meaningful friendships. It also opens their eyes up to different parts of the world.

Though the players from Denmark won't get to attend any NHL games this year, the program allows players to be educated about different parts of the world, and see things like Niagara Falls for the first time.

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Ask a Restaurateur

Q: How was business overall for restaurants this year?

A: For the industry as a whole, revenues have been slowly declining since the beginning of the global recession in 2008. Although, some restaurant chains and independents increased their unit capacity in larger centres that are expanding while in Greater Fort Erie, we didn't experience any significant increase in new revenues and lost a couple of units recently.

There is hope in the coming year that as increased customer base at new lease builds, a new tourist attraction such as the Canadian Moose Speedway and new manufacturing jobs are starting to rebound in the private sector. In the meantime, those of us that have been in the restaurant business for decades or even, realize that the long term benefits of Greater Fort Erie look forward to serving our incredible community this holiday season and beyond!

For all of us in the restaurant business in Greater Fort Erie, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and an incredible New Year!

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(Owner: Peter Kouroulaakis)

Ask a Funeral Director

Q: Is it better to send flowers or make a donation when someone passes away?

A: This is a personal choice. It is tradition for family to send flowers and many friends do as well. The mention of a charity in the newspaper often is a mere preference for where the donations are sent and it shouldn't be assumed that donations are preferred over flowers.



Darren Flag
Funeral Director



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Ask The Accountant

Q: Should I have a will?

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Last-minute housing cash called 'temporary win'

Jeff Bolichowski
CMI Agency Niagara

Niagara Region can claim a \$1.9-million win in its fight over homelessness funding with the province.

That's the amount the Region will receive out of a \$42-million block of one-time, last-minute funding announced Thursday. The province said the cash will help cities adjust to the loss of the Community Start-Up and Maintenance Benefit, cut

in the 2012 Ontario budget.

That benefit, used by many Ontario Works recipients or disabled people to cover emergency expenses or last month's rent, will cease to exist Jan. 1.

"It's a temporary win," said Pelham Councilor Brian Batty, who co-chairs regional council's public health and social services committee. "It's a win of a battle, but not a win of the war."

The real win, he said, would be for the province

to hand back the full funding it hacked - 52% of what it once gave the Region for housing and homelessness.

The funding was handed down largely thanks to pressure from municipalities, homelessness advocates and the poor, said Ontario Community and Social Services Minister John Milloy. He said it will help protect the most vulnerable in Ontario and give municipalities more time to adjust to the funding change.

"We're hearing from

municipalities and others that they need more time and they need resources to allow the transition to take place to make sure no one falls between the cracks," he said.

"I certainly heard concerns from colleagues that municipalities are saying, 'Hey, you're asking municipalities to do a lot in a very short time.'"

Milloy said the new Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative funding model, which rolls up five programs into one, will be more flexible for local govern-

ments.

Batty said it amounts to down-loading provincial services to the local level.

"This will go further in easing the immediate hardship of January, but this is a short-term solution at best," he warned.

Sarah Pennisi,

the Region's director of social assistance and employment opportunities, said the Region lobbied for two years of transitional funding but still saw one as a positive.

"This actually was a surprise to us - a happy surprise," he said.

"Definitely the Region considers this a step in the right direction in terms of mitigating the loss of the CSUMB."

She said regional council will be given options in 2013 of how to use the transitional funding.

The province said municipalities must outline their plans for the cash and report back on its use.

Pennisi said the Region will keep working with the province to see to the needs of the homeless.

Batty credited the extra funding to intense lobbying from across Ontario. He said Niagara has been a leader in that battle.

He said the Region needs to keep fighting until the slashed benefit is reinstated.

Lori Kleinsmith, a health promoter at Bridges Community Health Centre in Port Colborne, took the cash as evidence the province is seeing the damage cutting the benefit will cause.

"It's a one-year reprieve," she said, but "it can't just be one year."

YWCA Niagara executive director Elisabeth Zimmermann said the funding is a good sign the province is beginning to yield.

"That's wonderful news. Certainly it will help offset some of the big losses we've been facing," she said.

But she said the benefit needs to be brought back.

"We want to see the (start-up program) reinstated."

"We want to see this won't be a permanent cut."



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Snooker champs



Earlier this month, the Royal Canadian Legion Bc 230 won its zone snooker championship, advancing to the district finals in Dundas in January. The team consists of Mike Saumann, left, Jack Harrison, Bruce Gooder and Gary Stewart.

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Brianna Meloche
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Thanks Brianna for a job well done!

For her exceptional efforts, she has received a gift certificate compliments of:



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 Call the Circulation Department at 905-871-3100 ext 201

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LOST: FAMILY RING
 Found on a green jade locket. Has flower design on the back. It's very dear to me. If found, please call 519-622-1178. Kici, jee@yahoo.ca

LOOK HERE!

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All claims against the Estate of DAVID KEWLEY WHORRALL, late of the Town of Fort Erie, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, who died on or about the 17th day of November, 2012, must be filed with the undersigned personal representative on or before February 8th, 2013, thereafter, the undersigned will distribute the assets of the said Estate, having regard only to the claims then filed.

DATED at Fort Erie, this 8th day of December, 2012
 Gregory David Whorrall,
 Estate Trustee of the Estate of David Kewley Whorrall by his solicitor,
 GERALD F. RUCH
 43 Jarvis Street, P.O. Box 8,
 Fort Erie, Ontario L2A 5M6

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE ESTATE OF LEONA ANNE MELANSON, also known as LEONA BRATRICE MELANSON
 All persons having claims against the Estate of LEONA ANNE MELANSON, also known as LEONA BRATRICE MELANSON, late of the Town of Fort Erie, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, who died on the 2nd day of October, 2012, are notified to send particulars to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of January, 2013, after which date the estate will be distributed with regard only to claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable in any way for persons of whose claim the undersigned shall not then have notice.

Dated this 14th day of December, 2012.
 Carl Patton and Joan Thorne, Estate Trustees by their solicitors,
 Jeffrey Anderson & Roddy 284 Ridge Road
 Ridgeway, Ontario L0R 2N0
 Telephone: 905-804-0220
 Fax: 905-849-0356

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Obituaries Obituaries Obituaries Obituaries

COSBY, Beatrice Jane - The family is comforted by the knowledge that Beatrice is safe in the arms of the Lord. Passed away at Glimore Lodge on December 25th, 2012 at the age of 93. Beloved wife of the late Morgan. Proud mother of Eric (Barbara), Ronald (Linda), Gloria, Nancy (Clifford), Kenneth (Sally) and Ariane (Greg). Sadly missed by her many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Cherished sister of Edith Hare, Clifford Booker and Fern Alexander. Predeceased by her son Sydney, her brother Sydney and her dear friend Millard Spark. Beatrice attended the GOLDEN HARVEST BAPTIST CHURCH BENEFIT FUNERAL SERVICES, 1105 Berner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family will receive friends in the Funeral Chapel from 1 pm until the time of service at 2 pm on Sunday December 30th. If so desired, donations to the Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

JACQUES, Charles - At Douglas Memorial Hospital, Fort Erie, on Thursday December 20, 2012, Charles John Jacques, age 75, of Ridgeway and formerly of Chatham. Beloved husband of Valerie (Parey) Jacques of Ridgeway and the late Mary Laura Marie Jacques (1950-2012) in Chatham in 1937. He is survived by many children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. At Charles's request there will be no funeral home visitation. A Graveside Service was conducted in St. Anthony's Cemetery, Chatham on Thursday December 27, 2012 at 1 pm. Burial followed. Donations to the St. Vincent de Paul Society would be appreciated. Online condolences welcomed at www.pestekid.com

The Hinnegan-Pesseli Funeral Home
 519-835-5120

KATZ, Manfred "Manner" - Suddenly on Monday, December 24th, 2012 age 78 years. Beloved husband of Lorena Katz. Dear Step-Father of Petra and Mush. Also survived by his two brothers in Germany. Family will receive their friends at **WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME**, 222 Ridge Road North, Ridgeway on Friday, December 28th from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers donations to the Parkinson Society of Canada would be appreciated by the family. Sharing of memories, pictures and condolences at www.williamsfuneralhome.ca



GREEN, Doris Marie (nee Trautwein) - Passed away peacefully in her sleep on Saturday, December 22, 2012 in her 92nd year, after a courageous battle with leukemia. Beloved wife of 68 years to the late Earl (2009). Christened mother of Roger (Sue) Green and Virginia (Edward) Rudyanski. Proud gram of Heather, Michael, Audrey (Stephen), Laura (Stephanie), Joseph and several great-grandchildren. Predeceased by son Wayne (1967), grandson Daniel (1988), sister Helen (Elmer) Flynn, brothers Charles (Ruth) and Norm (Lij) Trautwein and parents Charles and Laura. Aunt Dodo to many nieces and nephews. Gramma Dodo to all. Doris will be missed by her bingo pals at Douglas Heights Senior Center and was a 50+ year Member of St. Michael's Catholic Women's League. She will be remembered for her smile. Many thanks to Elizabeth for all her care and support. The family will receive their friends and relatives at the **HAMMOND-DAVIDSON FUNERAL HOME**, 21 Williams Street, Fort Erie on Wednesday 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Vigil prayers will be offered at the funeral home at 3:30 p.m. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Fort Erie on Thursday, December 27th at 10:30 a.m. Interment to follow at St. John's Anglican Church Cemetery, Stevensville. On-line condolences at www.hammondanddavisonfuneralhome.com



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In Loving Memory of
Frederick J. Kenworthy
 December 17, 2012

"TWENTY-THIRD PSALM"

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;

He leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul:

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

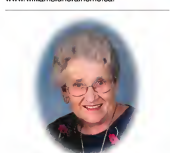
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

And I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES

KEIWAN, Jean - On Monday December 24, 2012 at Maple Park Lodge at the age of 94, Jean Kewan passed away peacefully rejoicing her husband and three children. Beloved wife of the late William Kewan and loving mother of the late William Jr., the late Lynda and late Robert. She will be sadly missed by her daughter-in-law Brenda Kewan, grandchildren Nicole, Demetra and Peter and her sister-in-law Mary Kewan. A sincere thank-you to the dedicated staff at Maple Park Lodge and Garrison Place. Your care of Jean was truly appreciated. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. Visitation was held on Friday December 28th from 11am until service time at 12 noon at the Benner Chapel. Interment followed at McAfee Cemetery. Those who wish may make memorial contributions to the Canadian Cancer Society.

LINDENAS, Nils Einar - Passed away December 24th, 2012 in his 91st year. He will be dearly missed by his wife Dorothy and son Jim (Debbie) Lindenas. Predeceased by daughters Linda (Marvin) Longoast and Kathy (Rick) Galsman, brother Bert (Betty) Lindenas, and sister Tyra (the late Howard) Schooley. Survived by 7 grandchildren. Nils was a secondary school teacher in Beamsville for 30 years, an avid golfer, and serious bridge player. He landed with the Queen's Own Rifles on D-Day. Family will receive their friends and relatives at the **WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME**, 722 Ridge Road, Ridgeway on Friday, January 4th from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Memorial Services to follow in the Chapel at 1:00 p.m. Sharing of memories, pictures and condolences at www.williamsfuneralhome.ca.



LUBBERTS, Patricia - Passed away peacefully at the Douglas Memorial Hospital, Fort Erie on Tuesday, December 25th in her 78th year. Survived by her much loved husband John Lubberts, daughter Susan MacDonald and grandsons Rob and Josh MacDonald. Patricia was predeceased by her adored son David Lubberts (1997). She will be lovingly remembered by her brother James (Margaret) Hartman and many brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. Patricia volunteered much of her time working as a Sunday School Teacher at Ridgeway United Church, Girl Guide Leader and a Lionesse Member. Friends and relatives are invited to visit at the **WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME**, 722 Ridge Road, North Ridgeway on Friday, December 28th from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. A Funeral Service will be held in the Chapel on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Interment to follow at McAfee Cemetery, Fort Erie. If so desired donations to the Canadian Diabetes Association would be appreciated by the family. Sharing of memories, pictures and condolences at www.williamsfuneralhome.ca.



VERBURG, Merianna - Mary passed away unexpectedly on Dec. 13, 2012 at the Welland Hospital. She is survived by her loving husband Paul Merlino, and daughters Melissa and Stephanie Slinn. Also survived by siblings: Dick and Margaret, Cobi and Claude, Kees and Diana, John and Gloria, Ed and Maryann, Tami and Jack, Peter and Adele, Ron and Kathryn. Predeceased by parents: Jan and Maria Verbura, and brother Rickland his wife Joan. For almost 20 yrs., Mary was the publisher of the Port Colborne/Wainfleet Shopper, and used its extensive circulation throughout South Niagara to publicize many charitable and non-profit organizations including: N.C.C. Ridgeway BIA, RCBS 100th year reunion, Dunnville Christian School, Covenant Christian School, Wainfleet Agricultural Fair, Niagara Antique Power Association, Canadian Cancer Society and many more. At Mary's request cremation has taken place, and a celebration of Mary's life will be held at First United Church, 5244 Highway 83, Sheraton, ON, on Monday Dec. 17, 2012 at 11am. Memorial Donations may be made to: Liver Foundation of Canada, or the Canadian Cancer Society.

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Pre-arranging a funeral service can be as simple as providing the vital statistics needed for the government, or as involved as arranging and paying for all of the arrangements.

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Darren Flagg

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Monday, December 31,
10:30 a.m. Centennial. \$2.

Holiday Hours

Open Monday, December
31, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. All
branches.

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Wednesday, January 2, 9:30
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infants, toddlers and pre-
schoolers, emphasizing safe-
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and first aid basics. Pre-
registration required. \$25 fee
payable to instructor at time
of course.

Idle No More



Last week, members of the local community staged their own version of an 'Idle No More' protest. Those involved hope to raise awareness of Bill C-45, which they feel will erode environmental protection and human rights. A flash mob relating to this issue will be held today at the Pen Centre in St. Catharines at 1 p.m.

Meteors win three of last four

The Fort Erie Meteors have won three of their last four games.

On Dec. 15, the Meteors beat the Port Colborne Pirates by a score of 6-3.

On Dec. 20, the Meteors inched past the Thorold Blackhawks in a 4-3 shootout win on the road.

Last Saturday, the Meteors walloped the Buffalo Blades 6-2.

On Thursday night, the Meteors were downed 4-2 by the Stoney Creek Warriors, even though they outshot their opponent 28-26.

The Meteors will face the Port Colborne Pirates tonight at the Leisureplex, with a 7:15 p.m. puck drop.

Trophy presented to Lions Club

The Ed Christiansen trophy was presented to the #337 Fort Erie Squadron Air Cadets sponsoring committee recently at the Leisureplex Lions Banquet Hall.

The trophy is given to the top sponsoring committee in the Niagara, Hamilton and Kitchener-Waterloo areas.

The presentation was part of the Air Cadets' parents night, which featured drills and the cadets band.

The Lions Club of Fort Erie is the major sponsor of the Air Cadet Squadron in Fort Erie.



Dave Jeffrey, from the Ontario Air Cadets provincial committee, presents the Ed Christiansen trophy to Al Chevalier of the Fort Erie Air Cadet sponsoring committee. The committee has been named the top Air Cadet sponsoring committee in the Niagara, Hamilton, Kitchener-Waterloo area. The Lions Club of Fort Erie is the major sponsor of #337 Fort Erie Squadron. This sponsorship has been continuous since the squadron's inception in 1943. Also in the photo are Bob Marjerrison, Wayne Mills, Jeff Eggleton and Charles McMillen.



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*and
Thank you*



Christina and Sam

**For your continued
business and
support.**

**We look forward
to serving you
in 2013.**

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